UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26302
13 August 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 12 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith information bulletins on the measures taken by Iraq in fulfilment of the requirements of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) during the month of June 1993 (annex I) and during the month of July 1993 (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I

Measures taken by Iraq in fulfilment of the requirements of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) during the month of June 1993

I. SECTION C OF RESOLUTION 687 (1991)

1. Chemical Destruction Group (UNSCOM 38)

The Chemical Destruction Group, which has been based in Iraq since 18 June 1992, continued work at the Muthanna site as usual. The Group supervises the destruction of chemical ordnance by the Iraqi side.

The Iraqi side and the Group proceeded to destroy the chemical equipment that had previously been at Fallujah. The Iraqi side had sought to make use of the equipment in a civilian plant for the production of agricultural pesticides, but the Special Commission rejected the request and insisted that the equipment be destroyed.

2. UNSCOM 57 ballistic missile team

UNSCOM 57, a ballistic missile team comprising 16 inspectors from the Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and led by the French national Patrice Palanque, arrived in the country on 4 June 1993. The team visited 21 sites, some of them several times. The purpose of the visit was to assess local capabilities in the fabrication of liquid-fuel propulsion motors and control and guidance equipment and to evaluate precision machinery.

The team sought to install cameras at the Rafah and Mu'tasim sites for purposes of future monitoring, and the Iraqi side requested that a decision on the matter be postponed until after the comprehensive assessment was made of the extent to which resolution 687 (1991) had been implemented on the occasion of the talks to be held by the Special Commission and the Iraqi side in New York on 12 July 1993.

The team left for Bahrain on 28 June 1993.

3. UNSCOM 59 ballistic missile team

The UNSCOM 59 ballistic missile team was formed on 27 June 1993 under the leadership of the Russian national Nikita Smidovich and comprised 10 inspectors from the Chemical Destruction Group and the Aerial Inspection Team. It made unannounced visits to the technical corps at Taji and the civilian project 144 in order to investigate, as the Chief Inspector claimed, the possible presence of chemical ordnance. The team verified that these assertions were untrue. It also sought to install permanent monitoring cameras at the Rafah and Mu'tasim sites, and the Iraqi side reiterated its previous position with respect to the postponement of consideration of the matter until after the technical talks between the Iraqi side and the Special Commission.

The team left for Bahrain on 5 July 1993.

4. IAEA 20 nuclear inspection team

The IAEA 20 nuclear inspection team, comprising 10 inspectors and led by Mr. Bob Kelly, was in Iraq from 25 to 30 June 1993 and visited Tuwaitha, Jurf al-Naddaf, Al-Nida' State Establishment, Badr Establishment, Al-Furat site, 7 Nisan Establishment, and the tubular steel and bicycle factory. The team also held three meetings with the Iraqi side at which it asked many questions and the Iraqi side provided full answers. The Chief Inspector submitted six letters, and some of them were answered in the course of the meetings and the others will be answered later.

The Chief Inspector held a press conference at which he spoke of what had been accomplished during the visit, describing it as a successful one.

He stated that the Iraqi nuclear programme had been terminated and destroyed, and he denied that Iraq was concealing a secret nuclear reactor as reported by Western intelligence and information agencies.

5. UNSCOM helicopter unit

During the month of June 1993, the unit carried out the tasks entrusted to it with the cooperation and assistance of the Iraqi side, making 21 flights for the purpose of transporting teams to and from inspection sites. The Aerial Inspection Team made eight flights, in which it surveyed, photographed and inspected 11 sites.

II. RETURN OF PROPERTY

1. The second stage of the hand-over of military items and equipment in the Safwan area was completed at the end of May.

2. The third and fourth stages of the hand-over of military items and equipment in the Safwan area began in the first week of June.

3. On 7 June 1993, 10 naval vessels were handed over at buoy No. 1.

4. On 24 June 1993, two naval vessels were handed over at buoy No. 5.

III. UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

On 17 June 1993, General Dibuama, UNIKOM Chief Military Observer, was received by the Chief of the International Organizations and Conferences Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. General Dibuama expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Iraqi side for its cooperation in the matter of the pull-back of the six border posts located within one kilometre of the boundary-marker line. Between 14 and 18 May 1993, the Iraqi side had pulled back six border posts at the request of UNIKOM. In the course of the meeting a number of points were reviewed, including the request of the Iraqi side that the Iraqi dredge Al-Fayha' be recovered from the Khawr al-Sabiyah area and that the Southern Petroleum Company be allowed to remove its equipment from the demilitarized zone.

Annex II

Measures taken by Iraq in fulfilment of the requirements of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) during the month of July 1993

I. SECTION C OF RESOLUTION 687 (1991)

1. UNSCOM 60 ballistic missile inspection team

The team, consisting of 30 inspectors under the leadership of the United States national Mark Silver, arrived on 10 July 1993. On the following morning, the team visited the Rafah site and sought to place seals on the equipment located there. The Iraqi side once again stated its position with respect to the postponement of a decision in the matter until after the talks between the Iraqi side and the Special Commission on the implementation of resolution 687 (1991) and on other aspects of the relationship between the two sides. The Chief Inspector thereupon asked to leave the site, proceeded to the airfield and, on the same day, 11 July 1993, left for Bahrain.

2. Visit to Baghdad by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission

Ambassador Rolf Ekéus, Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, visited Baghdad between 15 and 19 July 1993. He did so in order to hold talks with the Iraqi side on the issues outstanding after the matter of the monitoring cameras had reached crisis proportions as a result of the Special Commission's insistence that they be installed at two rocket-motor test sites despite its awareness that this measure is part of resolution 715 (1991) and that the Commission was to have notified the Security Council of the fulfilment of the requirements of resolution 687 (1991) so that the Council would be able to begin consideration of paragraph 22 of that resolution concerning the lifting of the oil embargo imposed on Iraq. It should be noted that the Iraqi side did not refuse to allow the installation of cameras but only requested that consideration of the matter be postponed until after the technical talks scheduled to be held between the Iraqi side and the Special Commission in order to assess the extent to which resolution 687 (1991) has been implemented.

The talks of the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission with the Iraqi side were markedly frank and positive. Iraq presented a position paper on its view of the relation between Iraq's responsibilities towards the Security Council and its resolutions, on the one hand, and the responsibilities towards Iraq of the Special Commission and of the Security Council, as a body and as individual States, on the other. Chief among the latter responsibilities are respect for Iraq's sovereignty, independence, internal security and territorial integrity and the lifting of the unjust embargo and the other arbitrary restrictions and measures imposed upon it. The Executive Chairman incorporated this position paper into his report to the Security Council (S/26127) and stated in its regard that "the position paper presented by Iraq contains positive elements which permit the Commission and Iraq to commence, as soon as possible, high-level technical talks in New York".

The positive outcome achieved by Ambassador Ekéus's talks in Baghdad strengthen Iraq's earnest desire to resolve all the outstanding issues through

serious and responsible dialogue based on just and fair principles, and Iraq is anxious that the technical talks to be held with the Special Commission should have positive results.

3. The camera installation team

During the visit of Ambassador Ekéus to Baghdad, agreement was reached on an interim solution to the issue of the installation of monitoring cameras. The solution requires that the cameras be installed but not brought into operation until such time as agreement is reached in their regard and on other aspects of the relationship between the Special Commission and the Iraqi side. In light of that agreement, a Special Commission team arrived in Baghdad on 25 July 1993 entrusted with the task of installing the cameras at the Rafah and Al-Yawm al-Azim sites. The team consists of four inspectors led by the United States national Eckert. It has begun work on installing the cameras at the two sites and is continuing its work with a view to ensuring proper and effective installation.

4. IAEA 21 nuclear inspection team

The team, which arrived on 23 July 1993, consisted of 16 inspectors led by the Chief of the IAEA Action Team, Mr. Maurizio Zifferero. The team visited 15 sites, two of them without advance notification, and found nothing to contradict the Iraqi declarations. It held three meetings with the Iraqi side at which it requested additional information on the schedules submitted by Iraq. A protocol was also signed by the two sides containing a detailed work plan for the removal of radioactive fuel from Iraq. The team also approved the request of the Iraqi side concerning the use of graphite at the electric battery plant. The team left Habbaniyah airfield on 28 July 1993.

5. UNSCOM helicopter unit

During the month of July, the unit carried out the tasks entrusted to it with the cooperation and assistance of the Iraqi side. It made 23 flights for the purpose of transporting inspection teams. The Aerial Inspection Team made 14 flights, in which it surveyed, photographed and inspected 26 sites.

II. RETURN OF PROPERTY

1. The Ministry of Defence continued the hand-over of heavy military equipment to the Kuwaiti side at the Safwan point, as follows:

(a) 11 Chieftain tanks on 3 July 1993;

(b) Replacement parts for armour between 5 and 20 July 1993.

2. On 21 July 1993, the Ministry of Transport and Communications began the hand-over of the following items to the Kuwaiti side, also at the Safwan point:

(a) 20,000-line Swedish switchboard;

(b) Computer, callback and control equipment, and miscellaneous equipment;

(c) 28 low-capacity exchanges;

(d) Telex exchange and power equipment;

(e) Navigation equipment.

III. UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

In the framework of ongoing coordination between the Iraqi authorities and UNIKOM, General Dibuama, UNIKOM Chief Military Observer, was received by the Chief of the International Organizations and Conferences Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 1 July 1993. General Dibuama expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Iraqi side for its cooperation in the matter of the installation of signs marking the demilitarized zone. The Chief of the Department also received General Dibuama on 21 July 1993, and at this meeting a number of issues were reviewed relating to the functioning of UNIKOM in the demilitarized zone.